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PORT HEALTH DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

A N N U A L   R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1955



## PORT HEALTH DISTRICT OF PAIGNTON

This report is based on the instructions of the Ministry of Health contained in Circulars 33/52 and 16/55, and follows the arrangement detailed in Form Port 20.

### SECTION I - STAFF

TABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appointment	Qualifications	Any other appointments held
D.K. Mac-Taggart	Medical Officer of Health	1954	M.A. M.B. CH.B (Aberd.) D.P.H. (Lond.)	Medical Officer of Health for Brixham and Borough of Dartmouth.
S.H. Bone	Chief Sanitary Inspector	1949	M.S.I.A. Cert. S.I.B.	Housing Officer Petroleum Officer.
C.J. Turpin	Rodent Operator and Disinfectors	1929	-	-

Clerk:- Mrs. S. Beaumont.

Address and telephone number of the Medical Officer of Health:-

Municipal Offices,  
Oldway, Paignton.

Tele: No. Paignton 82214.



SECTION II - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING

THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR

TABLE B

Ships from	Number	Tonnage	<u>Number inspected</u>		Number of ships reported as having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board.
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Coastwise	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil..	Nil.
TOTAL	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.



SECTION III - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND  
TRADE DURING THE YEAR

TABLE C

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Passenger Traffic	{	Number of passengers INWARDS - Nil.
	{	Number of passengers OUTWARDS - Nil.

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Cargo Traffic	{	Principal IMPORTS - Nil.
	{	Principal EXPORTS - Nil.

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Principal Ports from which ships arrived in 1955: Nil.

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SECTION IV - INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

There is no inland barge traffic in the area.





## SECTION V - WATER SUPPLY

- (1) Source of supply for (a) the District and (b) Shipping.
  - (a) The water supply of the District is from an upland surface catchment area on Dartmoor of 4,200 acres. The water is treated by storing, filtering, liming and chlorinating.
  - (b) The port is supplied by 2 stand pipes on the harbour quays.

- (2) Reports of tests for contamination.

Frequent samples are taken for bacteriological examination both from the reservoirs and from taps served by the main. The reports indicate that the supply falls in Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification.

- (3) Precautions taken against contamination of hydrants and hosepipes.

No precautions are taken.

- (4) Number and sanitary condition of water boats, and powers of control by the Authority.

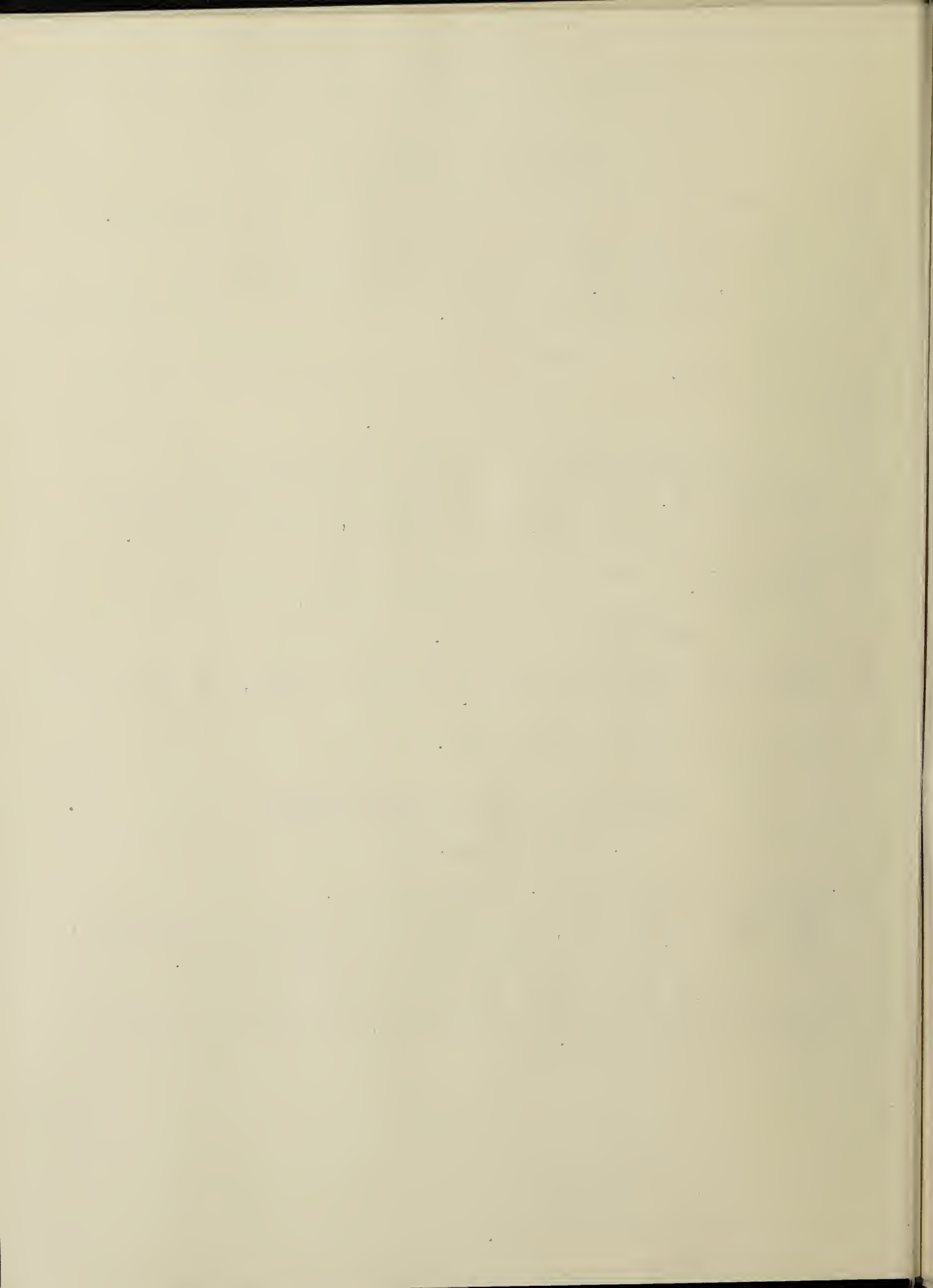
There are no water boats.

## SECTION VI - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS)

### REGULATIONS, 1952

- (1) List of infected areas. (Regulation 6.)  
Arrangements for the preparation and amendment of the list, the form of the list, the persons to whom it is supplied, and the procedure in supplying it to those persons.

No list of infected ports and areas is received from the Ministry of Health, consequently no action is possible under the regulation.



(2) Radio Messages.

- (a) Arrangements for sending permission by radio for ships to enter the District. (Regulation 13.)

The Post Office will make the necessary arrangements for transmission of wireless messages, if required.

- (b) Arrangements for receiving messages by radio from ships, and for acting thereon. (Regulation 14 (1) (a) and (2)).

Messages are received through Niton radio who inform H.M. Customs at Dartmouth, who telephone the Public Health Department.

- (3) Notification otherwise than by radio. (Regulation 14 (1) (b)). Arrangements for receiving notifications otherwise than by radio and for acting thereon.

The Coastguard Station on Berry Head receives all communications by semaphore, morse, and international code of signals. The message is then passed on to the Medical Officer of Health, normally in his capacity as Medical Officer of Health of Brixham.

- (4) Mooring Stations. (Regulations 22 to 30) - Situation of Stations, and any other standing directions issued under these Regulations.

There is no quarantine buoy, but a quarantine anchorage is available at Brixham. The exact location of the anchorage is marked on charts in the possession of H.M. Customs and the Harbour Master.

- (5) Arrangements for:-

- (a) Hospital accommodation for infectious cases (other than Smallpox - See Section VII.)

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Torquay Isolation Hospital.



- (b) Surveillance and follow-up of contacts.

This is undertaken by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

- (c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles.

By arrangement with the Torquay Public Health Department the cleansing of persons is carried out at their cleansing station. The disinfection of any quarters aboard ship is carried out by the Rodent Operator, and the disinfection of other articles, including clothing, is carried out in the Council's Steam Disinfector.

#### SECTION VII - SMALLPOX

- (1) Name of Isolation Hospital to which Smallpox cases are sent from the District.

Upton Pyne Smallpox Hospital, Nr. Exeter.

- (2) Arrangements for transport of such cases to that Hospital by ambulance, giving the name of the Authority responsible for the ambulance and the vaccinal state of the crews.

Arrangements are made by telephone message to the Resident Physician at Whipton Isolation Hospital, Exeter. The vehicle is supplied by Exeter City Health Department, and is staffed by the hospital. All members of the crew are vaccinated regularly.

- (3) Names of Smallpox Consultants available.

The Consultants are:-

Dr. C. Seward, Exeter.

Dr. W. J. Laird, Exeter.

- (4) Facilities for Laboratory diagnosis of Smallpox.

Specimens are sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory, (Virus Reference), Colindale, Hendon, London, N.W.4.





## SECTION VIII - VENEREAL DISEASE

Information as to the location, days and hours of the available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among merchant seaman under international arrangements, including in-patient treatment and the steps taken to make these facilities known to seamen.

Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among seamen are available at the Torbay Hospital, Torquay, at clinics held on Wednesdays at 5.30 p.m. - 7.30 p.m. In-patient treatment is given at the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

Leaflets are circulated among ships crews with this information.





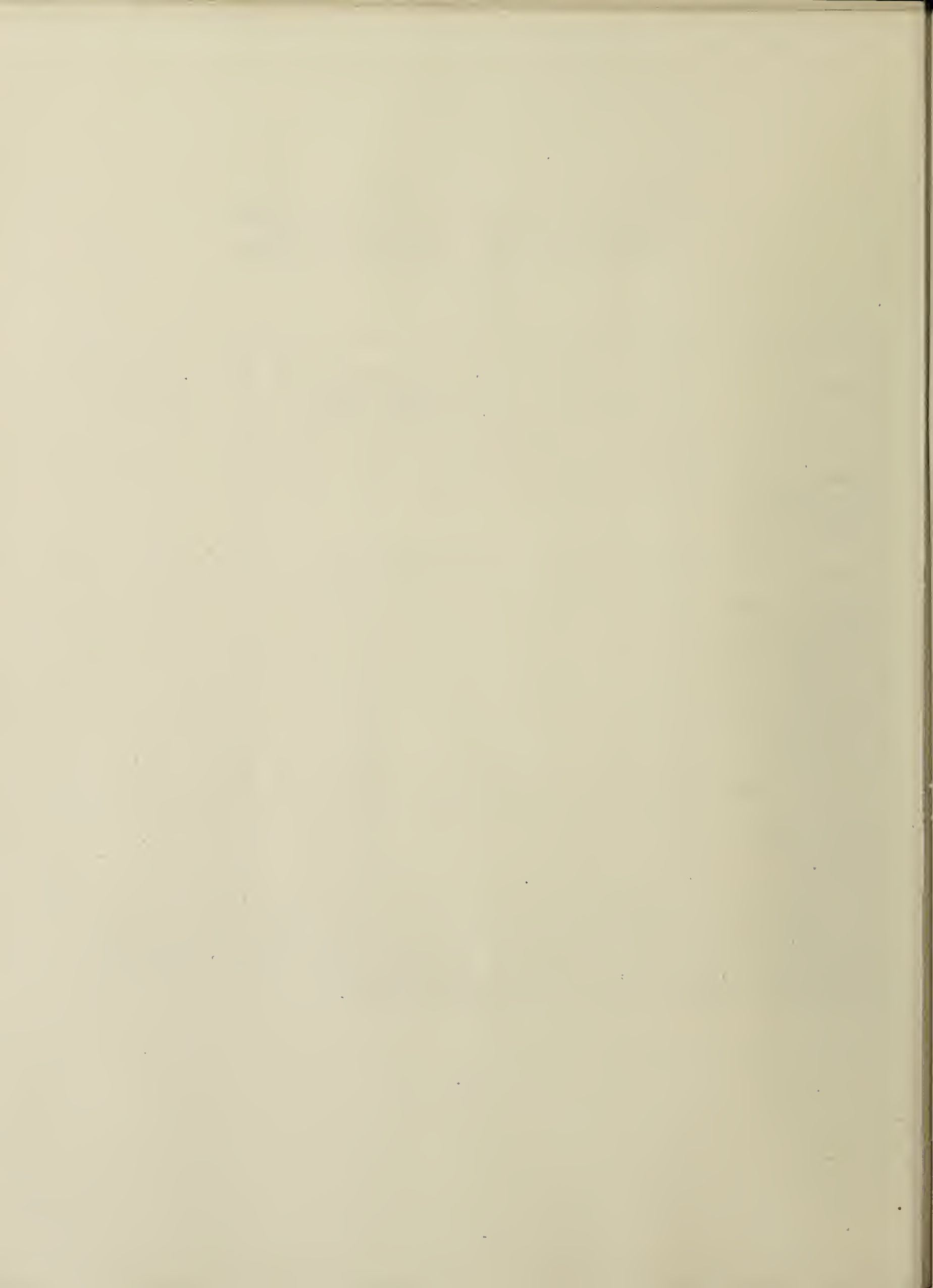
SECTION IX - CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND  
OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS

TABLE D

Category	Disease	No. of cases during the year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	-	-	-	-
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	-	-	-	-
Cases landed from other ports.	-	-	-	-

A short account should be given of the measures taken on the arrival by ship of (a) any case of smallpox, cholera, plague, yellow fever, typhus, or relapsing fever included in Table D; (b) any suspected case of any such disease.

N I L.



SECTION X - OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE  
OF MALARIA IN SHIPS

N I L.

SECTION XI - MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS  
INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE

N I L.

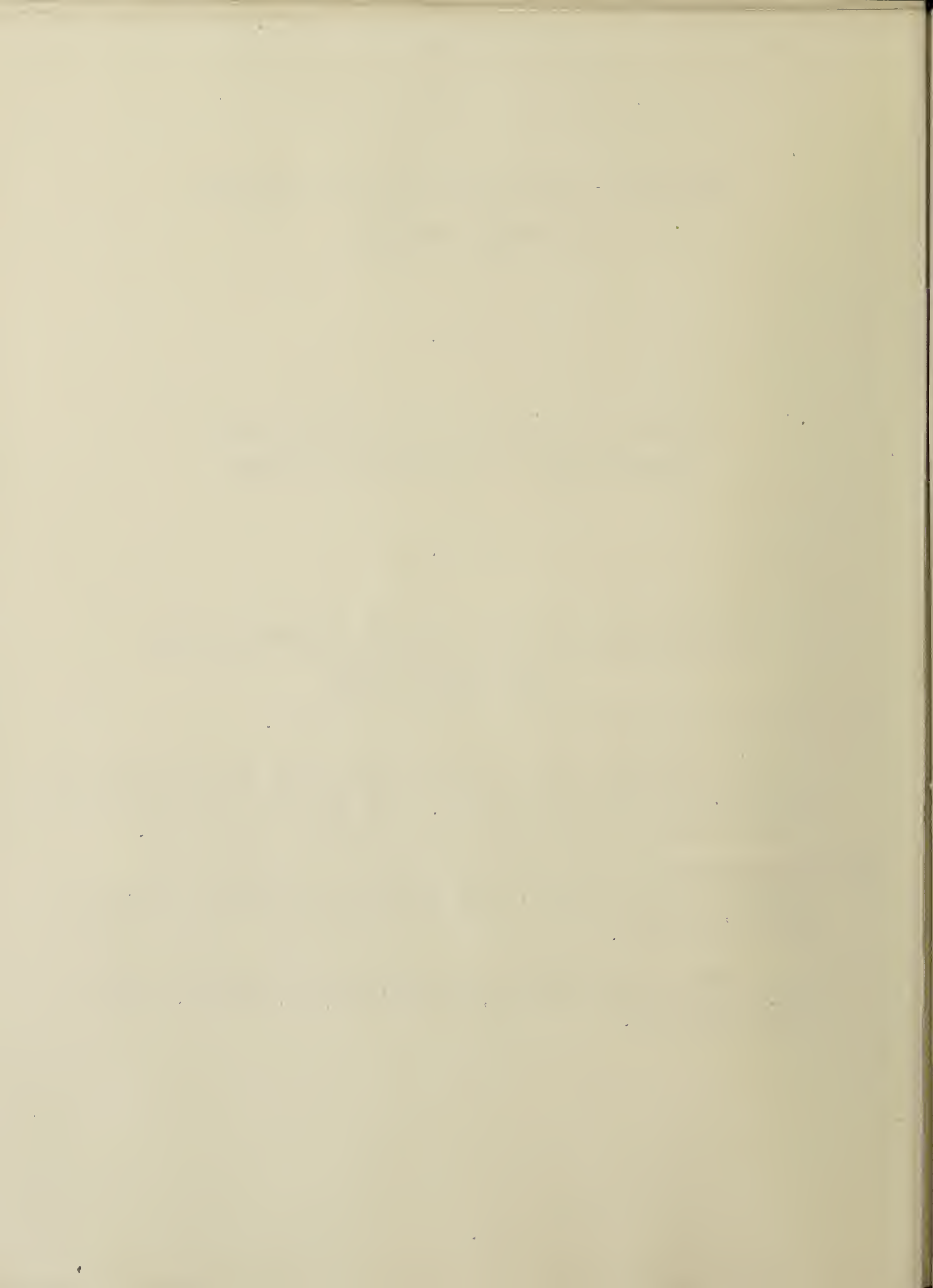
SECTION XII - MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS  
FROM FOREIGN PORTS

- (1) Procedure for inspection of ships for rats.

If any ships were to arrive from foreign ports, their masters would be asked if there was evidence of the presence of or undue mortality in rats. The Sanitary Inspector and Rodent Operator would make any necessary inspections.

- (2) Arrangements for the Bacteriological or Pathological examination of rodents, with special reference to rodent plague, including the number of rodents sent for examination during the year.

These examinations would be carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, 7, Dix's Field, Exeter. None have been sent.



- (3) Arrangements in the District for deratting ships, the methods used, and, if done by a commercial contractor, the name of the contractor.

Masters of ships would be referred to Plymouth for this service.

- (4) Progress in the rat-proofing of ships.

No ships have required rat-proofing.

TABLE E

Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>
Black rats	Nil.
Brown rats	Nil.
Species not known	Nil.
Sent for examination	Nil.
Infected with plague	Nil.

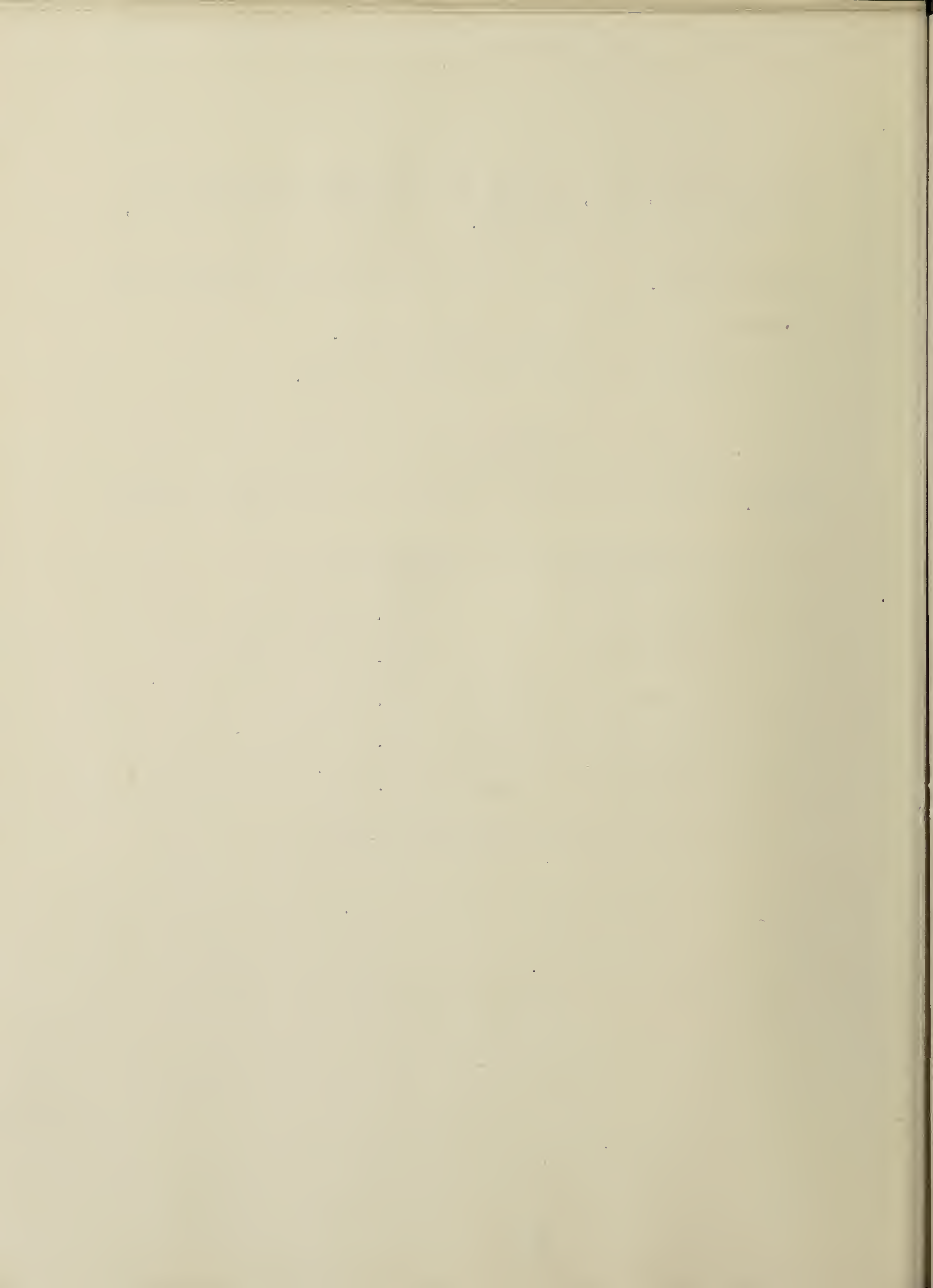




TABLE F

Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports.

Paignton is not an approved port under Article 52 of the International Sanitary Regulations.

SECTION XIII-- INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES

TABLE G

Inspections and Notices

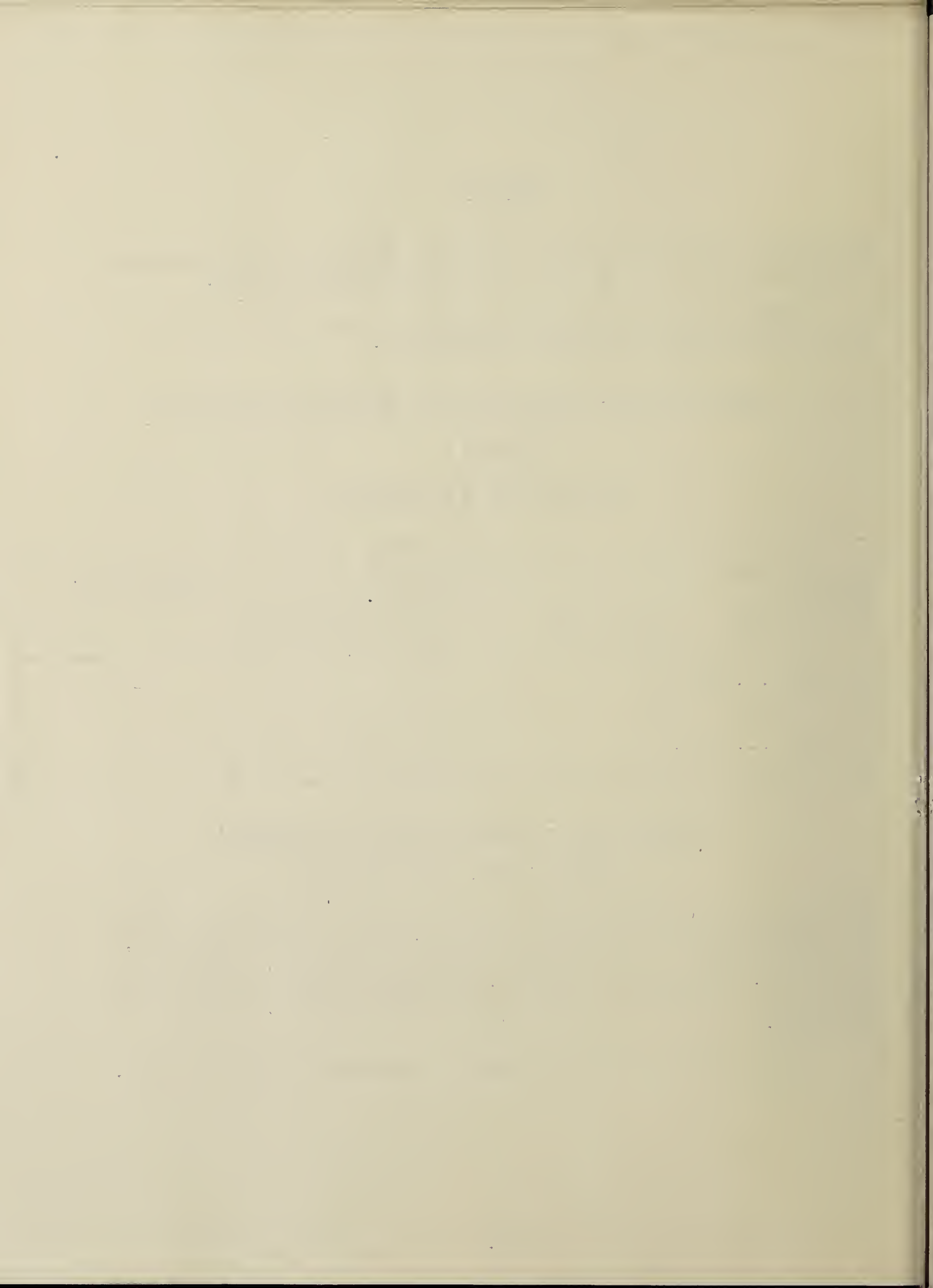
Nature and Number of Inspections		Notices served		Result of serving notices
		Statutory Notices	Other Notices	
General ...	Nil.	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	Nil.			

SECTION XIV - PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH)

REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948

Information respecting any shellfish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, liable to pollution. A report of any action taken, which should state whether any prohibited area has been prescribed, should be included.

There are no shellfish beds or layings within the area.





## SECTION XV - MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS

Paignton is not a port approved under the Aliens Order, 1920.

## SECTION XVI - MISCELLANEOUS

Arrangement for the burial on shore of persons who have died on board ship from infectious disease.

The bodies of persons who have died on board ship from from infectious disease would be conveyed to the Council's mortuary in Palace Avenue whilst arrangements were made for interment or cremation. Any necessary precautions would be taken according to the type of disease.

DK. Maetaqqast

Medical Officer of Health.

